THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Agreement on Cooperation on tourism between the Government of Republic of India and the Government of Republic of Portugal was signed in Lisbon on Monday the 29th July, 1991. As per the Agreement both countries will take necessary measures to encourage and stimulate the tourist traffic between the two countries through mutual exchange of knowledge and experience concerning various sectors of tourism.

(c) The Agreement does not provide for development of any specific areas in the country.

Railway Lines in Marathwada-Vidarbha Region

4550. SHRI TEJSINGHRAO BHONSLE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal regarding laying o new railway lines in he hinterland of Marathwada-Vidarbha region is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether any survey has been made in this regard;

(c) whether it is proposed to include it in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(d) whether any survey has been conducted for a railway line between Amravati and Narkhed; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE INISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Proposals for Eighth Plan have not yet been decided.

(d) and (e) A survey for Narkhed-Amravati new BG line has been taken up. Further decision will be taken based on the results of survey and availability of resources in the coming years.

Uniform Transmission Tariff

4551. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to have a uniform transmission tariff for certain States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NONCONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) The Central Sector transmission tariff covers annual fixed charges comprising depriciation, interest and O & M charges, and payment towards transmission losses incurred in transmission of energy through the Central Sector transmission lines. These charges are being apportioned to the beneficiary States in proportion to their respective drawals, on monthly basis. To this extent, there already exists a uniformity in regard to Central Sector transmission tariff regionwise for all

the States/UTs in each of the regions for each one of the Central Generating Corporations. This procedure is in vogue in Northern, Western, Southern and Eastern regions.

In respect of North-Eastern region, the constituent States have agreed, in a meeting held in July, 199, to the charging of a uniform transmission tariff for transmitting Central power, as in the case of other regions.

Tourism Development in Orissa

4552: SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the steps the Union Government propose to take to assist the State Government in developing tourism;

(b) whether the Govt. of Orissa has requested for the assistance to the Union Government to develop tourism in the State in general and in respect of certan specific projects in particular; and

(c) the name of these specific projects and the assistance the Union Government propose to be rendered?

THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Development of Tourism is an ongoing process. The Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance to State Governments in respect of specific proposals received from them, subject of availability of funds and inter-se priorities.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) An amount of Rs. 247.80 lakhs has been earmarked as Central assistance to the Government of Orissa for construction of five Visitor's Centres, two Tourist Complexes, one Yatri Niwas, Tourist Amenities at places of Buddhist interest, purchase of adventure equipments, development of Hot Springs, establishment of Marine Water Sports and provision of airconditioned coaches during 1991-92.

Waiting Room at Dhampur Station

4553. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct a waiting room at Dhampur station on Jammu-Howrah section (Norhern Railway);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the alternative steps proposed to be taken to remove the difficulties of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir. An upper class waiting room already exists at Dhampur Station

(b) and (c) Do not arise

[English]

Bridge at Karimganj

4554. SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a railway overbridge at Karimganj (station road) in Assam in view of difficulties being faced by the public due to density of traffic; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?